



NEWS RELEASE

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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCES FUNDING FOR COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF REEVES COUNTY

SARAGOSA, TEXAS, March 8, 2006-- Bryan Daniel, USDA Rural Development State Director, announced today that the Community Council of Reeves County was selected to receive \$30,000 through the agency's Community Facilities Grant Program. The grant funds will be used to replace the deteriorating roof on the Saragosa Multi-Purpose Center. The facility was constructed in 1988 and is the social center of the community. In addition to being a location for meetings and public gatherings, the facility also houses for the Head Start and Elderly Meals programs, the local Emergency Medical Services, and a health clinic.

"This funding will provide improvements to the Saragosa Multi-Purpose Center, greatly benefiting the 527 residents in the community," said Daniel. "USDA Rural Development is committed to providing assistance to rural towns and communities to help them provide valuable services to their residents."

In Fiscal Year 2005, \$31.8 million in Community Facility direct and guaranteed loans and over \$900,000 in grants were obligated in Texas. Funds are used to enhance the quality of life for residents of rural areas by providing the means for construction, expansion, or enhancement of community facilities, telecommunication and distance education programs, and water and waste disposal systems. These programs are important because they supply a number of growth opportunities to communities with improved utility facilities, increased job availability, and technology and educational resources. Since 2001, USDA Rural Development's Community Programs have awarded \$1.8 billion for these purposes, and touched the lives of more than 1.16 million households in the process.

USDA Rural Development was created in 1994 to serve Texas' more than 3.6 million rural residents. For further information regarding USDA Rural Development Programs, contact the Fort Stockton Local Office at (432) 336-7585, Extension 4, or visit our website at <http://rurdev.usda.gov/tx/>.

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